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GEO-EXCELLENCE AWARD, 2022 ACCREDITATION

Hon'ble Prof. David T. King Jr., Auburn University, Alabama, USA - A Geo-Icon with outstanding contribution to Geoscience.

Dr. David T. King is working as a geology faculty member at Auburn University since 1980. He became a Professor of Geology in 1998. He has supervised more than 40 graduate students and is well-known for his work in sedimentology and stratigraphy of the coastal plain regions of the southeastern United States and of the northern and southern basins of Belize in Central America. He is the author of over 125 scientific papers, over 300 scientific abstracts, and more than 50 other papers and monographs related to pedagogy and public understanding of science. With the late Hal Levin, he is the co-author of *The Earth Through Time*, 11th edition (2016), a widely used historical geology textbook, which is published by Wiley and Sons. He is the author of a second book in historical geology, which is titled *Alabama Dinosaurs* (4th ed. (2021); Sentia Press). Dr. King's current academic (basic) research interests are related to the effect of asteroid and comet impact upon Earth's history and the stratigraphic record and his applied research interests relate to sedimentary geology (particularly petroleum exploration, carbon sequestration, and subsurface waste disposal). His current research projects include studies of (1) Wetumpka impact crater in Elmore County, Alabama; (2) Cretaceous-Paleogene impact-boundary stratigraphy in the U.S. Gulf Coastal plain and in Belize, Central America; (3) other impact structures, including Chesapeake Bay crater in Virginia and Flynn Creek crater in Tennessee, and (4) stratigraphy and petroleum geology of the northern and southern basins of Belize, Central America. From 1980- 1995, most of his basic research work focused on facies analysis, sequence stratigraphy, sea-level dynamics, and clastic aquifer properties of eastern Alabama's Upper Cretaceous stratigraphic section. In the past, he has also studied Jurassic Smackover Limestone of south Alabama hydrocarbon basins, Early Carboniferous (Waulsortian) reef-like build-ups in the North American mid-continent and globally, Middle and Upper Cambrian clastic-carbonate facies relations in central Texas, Late Cretaceous dinosaur stratigraphy and biogeography of the eastern U.S., lunar regolith grain sizes, chert petrology and metamorphism, and the petrography and diagenesis of limestone, chalk, and marl. Dr. King's recent research has been funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Electric Power Research Institute, Alabama Power, and Southern Nuclear, as well as internal Auburn University grants in aid and other corporate funding sources. In the past, his research has been funded by the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, Intercontinental Drilling Program and USGS, a Dean's Research Initiative, the National Geographic Society, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, and Vulcan Materials Company, and others. In addition, his early career research was funded by the National Science Foundation, Chevron USA, Atlantic-Richfield, American Chemical Society, the United States CRDF, Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, the Council on Undergraduate Research, USGS/Water Resources Research Institute, General Crude Oil Minerals, Inc., and other sources. Dr. King was appointed by Gov. Riley as a member of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists (2005-2014), and by Gov. Ivey to another term (2020-2022). As a board member, he represents the academic community in Alabama. He is presently a licensed professional geologist in the states of Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas. Also, Dr. King is a former Commissioner of the North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature (1997-2000) and a Fellow of the Geological Society of America (2022).

Considering the innovative, influential, and outstanding contribution to Geoscience, Prof. David T. King Jr. has been conferred with **GEO-EXCELLENCE AWARD, 2022** on the recommendation of the jury constituted of eminent geoscientists of our country and abroad under the aegis of the CEHESH TRUST OF INDIA.

Dr. B. Mishra

On behalf of the CEHESH TRUST OF INDIA